

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for a proxy server to provide a proxy server based service to a mobile communications device, the method comprising:

receiving a request from the mobile communications device to access the proxy server based service;

processing ~~said the request to access the proxy server based service~~; and

sending ~~the a~~ result of said processing the request to access the proxy server based service to the mobile communications device for forwarding to a network server via a secure connection established between the mobile communications device and the network server, the secure connection having been established by tunneling through the proxy server.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the request is the form of a response previously generated by the network server in reply to a request by the mobile communications device to access an on-line service provided by the network server, the method then comprising providing a protocol to understand said response.

8-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A proxy server comprising:

a processor; and

a memory device, having stored therein a code, which when executed by the processor causes the proxy server to:

receive a request from a mobile communications device to access a proxy server based service;

process the request to access the proxy server based service; and

send the a result of said processing the request to access the proxy server based service to the mobile communications device for forwarding to a network server via a secure connection established between the mobile communications device and the network server, the secure connection having been established by tunneling through the proxy server.

15. (Previously Presented) A proxy server as claimed in claim 14, wherein the code has portions which when executed perform a sequence of steps corresponding to a particular proxy service, the code further comprising instructions to execute a portion of the code corresponding to a particular proxy service based on the request from the mobile communications device.

16. (Previously Presented) A proxy server as claimed in claim 14, wherein the memory device further comprises a protocol stored therein to enable the processor to understand the request from the mobile communications device, in the event of said request being generated by an network server.

17-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A method for a mobile communications device to access an on-line service provided by a network server, the method comprising:

establishing a first connection, between the mobile communications device and a proxy server, the proxy server being configured to provide a proxy based service to the mobile communications device;

establishing a second connection, between the mobile communications device and a network server, wherein the second connection is a secure connection that co-exists with the first connection, wherein the secure connection is established by encryption and tunneling through the proxy server;

sending a request for information from the mobile communications device to the network server via the secure connection;

receiving a reply to the request at the mobile communications device from the network server, the reply being indicative of additional information required by the network server ~~in order to~~ process the request;

using the first connection ~~between the mobile communications device and the proxy server~~ to access the proxy server based service, the service being able to provide the additional information;

receiving the additional information at mobile communications device from the proxy server via the first connection ~~therewith~~; and

sending ~~an enhanced~~ a second request from the mobile communications device to the network server via the secure second connection ~~therewith~~, the ~~enhanced second~~ request including the additional information.

29. (Currently amended) A method for a proxy server to provide a proxy based service to a mobile communications device, the method comprising:

receiving at the proxy server a request from the mobile communications device to access the proxy server based service;

processing ~~said the~~ request in the proxy server by generating ~~an enhanced request a response~~ including ~~additional~~ information provided by the proxy server based service, the ~~additional~~ information being required by a network server ~~in order to~~ service a request ~~for information~~ sent by the mobile communications device via a secure connection with ~~between the mobile communications device and~~ the network server, the secure connection having been established by encryption and tunneling through the proxy server; and

sending the ~~enhanced request response~~ to the mobile communications device ~~for forwarding to the network server via the previously established secure connection.~~

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A proxy server as claimed in claim 14, wherein the secure connocation is encrypted.

32. (Canceled)

33. (New) A method for a proxy server to provide a proxy based service to a mobile communications device, the method comprising:

maintaining a first connection between the proxy server and the mobile communications device;

maintaining a second connection between the mobile communications device and a network server concurrently with maintaining the first connection, wherein the second connection is a secure connection implemented by a tunnel through the proxy server;

receiving at the proxy server, via the first connection, a first request from the mobile communications device to access a service provided by the proxy server, the request being for information required by the network server to allow the network server to service a second request previously sent by the mobile communications device to the network server via the second connection;

generating a response to the first request in the proxy server, the response including said information required by the network server; and

sending the response to the mobile communications device via the first connection.

34. (New) A method as claimed in claim 33, wherein the second connection is encrypted.